

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: "Hang" agc
Message-ID: <9507151401.AA15487@jupiter>

----- Begin Included Message -----

From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)
Subject: Re: 2nd R390A good n bad news

I have a minibox with a tube version of Goodman's dual time constant (rf and af loops) 'hang' agc circuitry contained thereon which I'm hoping to adapt to the 390A. All the convenient inputs, outputs and jumpers on the 390A beg for these black-box but no-holes modifications. I had a solid state hang agc circuit slapped into my old tube (later SS) SB301 and really enjoyed crusin' the low end of 40 running QSK with my SB401 about 9 years back. SSB operations were a joy with this style of agc as well. Interesting that no rice boxes that I know of use a hang agc circuit. These things are great, if you have a front panel hang time control as well as time constant selection!

----- End Included Message -----

I've never seen the "hang" AGC circuit. Could someone do their best to describe what's happening from the listener's point of view?

--Andy

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: Andy buys a Vibroplex
Message-ID: <9507151319.AA15448@jupiter>

Well, I did it. I bought my first (and probably only) Vibroplex bug!

I came close to stopping by Ham Radio Outlet in Salem, New Hampshire, and buying an Original Standard for \$100. But for \$10 more I could have the chrome plated base and red knobs.....hmm..... Well, I was out of luck with store stock, but they said they were expecting a box full of the Original Deluxe models in later in the week.

That was three weeks ago. To make a long story short, they wound up shipping me one from the Delaware store. I've had it for a few days and I think I feel confident in my impressions of

it. So here goes.

Workmanship: very nice. The chrome plated base is nicely polished, as are the upper parts. The only thing showing pitting under the chrome is the speed weight. Not a big deal! One slight disappointment is that the Vibroplex logo plate is slightly raised off the base at one corner. It must have flexed as the pins were forced into the base. Does anyone know how I might flex this back into position? In normal operating position, it doesn't even show, so I can live with it.

Calibration: as shipped you will have to adjust everything. You'll need to anyway. The instruction sheet from Vibroplex only touches the surface, but they include a reprint of an old QST article which does a very nice job of showing how to adjust the bug. I don't recommend you adjust the travel screws to 1/8" and put a PL-259 connector on in place of the speed weight, as suggested in KEYS, KEYS, KEYS. :-D

Operation: it's like driving a stick-shift for the first time. When I first learned, I would stall the car and then move the windshield wiper stalk, thinking I was shifting back into PARK to restart.... I have used non-iambic single-paddle keyers before. This was one of my first hurdles -- learning how to make "dahs" evenly and not forgetting to actually MOVE the dash paddle. In about a half-hour's adjustment and practice I was sending "BEN'S BEST BENT WIRE" pretty well! I've been practicing using the Drake's sidetone, and last night I connected up this Kantronics Field Day 2 code reader to verify what I was sending. That helps! With the speed weight all the way out the bug sends at about 22 w.p.m. and it is hard for me to tell a "5" from an "h" -- the Kantronics makes it easier.

I don't feel confident enough to use it on the air yet. My sending is getting better, though, and I find the practice enjoyable. My biggest trouble seems to be the letter "f" and the and the "AR" prosign.

I will be ordering another speed weight. <grin> I'd feel much more comfortable at 17 or 18 wpm. And here is a surprise -- I thought the shorting lever was standard. It's not, but the parts list and diagram included shows you can add it if you like. I assume you have to drill the base for it. Has anyone done so? I'd like to hear how the operation went, and if the patient survived. The parts list included prices, by the way. (Mitch, do you offer replacements for older bugs? My best friend's dad has a Champion with cracked black knobs.)

Overall, I like it! It feels nice to be using a new piece of

gear that hasn't really changed in eighty years. I guess that's why we use boatanchors! Thanks, Mitch!

--Andy, KA1GTT
wallace@mc.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: Re: Bunnell Key:
Message-ID: <9507141840.AA11518@bock.ih.att.com>

Is a sideswiper what is also called a "cootie key"?
THIS is a gadget much like the keyer for an electronic keyer, except you just strap both side's contacts in parallel. Then you hand-send code by alternating back and forth. Easy to send a string of dits by shaking your hand at half the dit frequency.

Back around 1960, Popular Electronics ran an article on how to make one. Inspired, I made my own out of Erector Set pieces and the frame of an old alarm clock, using the balance wheel as the pivot. Unforch, it had too much bend-compliance and a string of dits came out mroe like a string of very fast dahs -- hardly any break in the tone went you swung from one side to the other.

Later I used this thing to key a homemade electtro-mechanical automatic keyer, with a 78 RPM jukebox motor and tobacco can lids for cams. Again, the duty cycles were all wrong. But it was fun.

Anyway, a solidly built sideswiper is an effortless way to send CW totally without automation -- no vibrating bug weights. But I can imagine some people's brains would just rebel at the fact that each letter can start on either side. Send a string of U's and see how it feels.

BTW, a high school buddy loaned me his SK uncle's Bug from around 1920. It was really ancient, but very compact design, with the dit-spring running sideways instead of back to front. No idea who made it.
--73, mike k w9nrd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: "Tony Stalls (K4KY0)" <j38@clark.net>
Subject: Re: Bunnell Key:
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950714163336.10287B-100000@clark.net>

On Fri, 14 Jul 1995 Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com wrote:

> Is a sideswiper what is also called a "cootie key"?
> THis is a gadget much like the keyer for an electronic keyer,
> except you just strap both side's contacts in parallel.
> Then you hand-send code by alternating back and forth.
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> dit frequency.
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> Unforch, it had too much bend-compliance and a string of dits came
> out mroe like a string of very fast dahs -- hardly any break in the tone
> went you swung from one side to the other.

Way back when... Ny high school pal K4AMC and I made sideswipers out of corner braces and hacksaw blades from the hardware store. The worked amazingly well until the scruffed up place on the hacksaw blade for the contacts started rusting from the Tennessee Summer's humidity.

73,
Tony
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: Re: Bunnell Key:
Message-ID: <9507151254.AA15436@jupiter>

----- Begin Included Message -----

From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: Re: Bunnell Key:

BTW, a high school buddy loaned me his SK uncle's Bug from around 1920. It was really ancient, but very compact design, with the dit-spring running sideways instead of back to front. No idea who made it.
----- End Included Message -----

The KEYS, KEYS, KEYS book shows a couple of "sideways" bugs. One, which is very rare, is the CODETROL from the 50s. The one you might have used was made by Mecograph, a longtime competitor of

Vibroplex.

--Andy

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: "James T Hanlon" <jthanlo@jade.imdi.sandia.gov>
Subject: Condensers et al
Message-ID: <9506148057.AA805756211@jade.imdi.sandia.gov>

Dennis, N9VSL, had a couple of questions about capacitors.

First off, on rejuvenating electrolytics, the idea behind putting a microammeter in series with the capacitor - I'm sorry, BA's are Condensers, not capacitors - is so that you can monitor its leakage current. When the leakage current dies down to a sufficiently low or steady-state value, it's time to bump the voltage up again. I usually use 50 volt steps on high voltage condensers.

Don't forget that if you put a voltmeter across the condenser some current will flow through the meter. A VOM will have typically a 1000 to 20,000 ohm internal resistance times the full scale voltage rating of the scale you are on. For example, my Simpson 260 on the 250 volt scale has a $250 \times 20,000 = 5$ megohm resistance. That would produce 50 microamps of meter current if I was measuring 250 volts. A VTVM on any dc scale is typically 10 megohms, etc.

There should be absolutely no problem in using a half wave rectifier. Any condenser that is going to survive will charge up just as well whether it is subjected to 60 or 120 voltage peaks every second.

Regarding the line voltage bypass capacitors, I recall them being mentioned in Electric Radio a little way back. I think you risk tripping a ground-fault isolation type breaker like you probably have on the circuit feeding your garage and outdoor outlets if you bypass the hot side of the ac line to a chassis ground. That will produce "leakage" current between the hot side of the line and the third wire ground lead, which is what a ground-fault breaker is set to trip out on. That's another good reason (beside condenser failure which would attempt to put the chassis at the high side of the line) for disconnecting the line bypass condensers.

73,

Jim, W8KGI

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: clarke@acme.ist.ucf.edu (Thomas Clarke)
Subject: Re: Condensers et al
Message-ID: <m0sWrES-0006WsC@next1.acme.ist.ucf.edu>

Jim, W8KGI, wrote

> There should be absolutely no problem in using a half wave
> rectifier. Any condenser that is going to survive will charge up
> just as well whether it is subjected to 60 or 120 voltage peaks
> every second.

This is true for the capacitor, but if you are using a variac,
it would be more happy with the bidirectional current pulses going

into a full wave rectifier, than with the unidirectional pulses going
into a half wave. Currents are very small so I'm sure no damage
would be done, but you could get some weird effects such as less
voltage step-down than expected.

Tom Clarke
KE4VFH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: Drake sideband adapter?
Message-ID: <9507151346.AA15470@jupiter>

A fellow BA member mentioned seeing an ad for a Drake sideband
receiving or transmitting adapter in some ham magazine. It sounds
like it might have looked like the tall-and-narrow 1958 1-A
receiver, and may have been around that timeframe.

Can anyone verify this, or provide me with a copy of an ad?

--Andy

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: WONG_WAI@bentley.edu

Subject: ELF PreAmp Article Wanted
Message-ID: <01HSVRGBHHG20014VI@bentley.edu>

Hi:

Does anyone have a copy of an article entitled :

Low Noise ELF (ULF-Range) E-Field Preamplifier

J.R. Wright KA5YWH

I have been trying to locate it for a while. Any leads would be appreciated.

-WaiWong

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: jproc@worldlinx.com
Subject: Its Fun Time
Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950714205116.jproc@>

Dear BA's,

As I watch the thermometer drop from 94 to 90F this evening, I have decided it will be too hot to do any physical work on the ship on Sat July 15. Instead, I will fire up the Marconi CM11 on 7290 and have some AM fun using the ships callsign of VE3CGJ.

Initially, I will try to call 'CQ Boatanchors Group' on this frequency around 10:00 hrs EST. If the frequency is occupied with the 20 minute AM monologers listen instead around 7245 khz where I will use SSB. All bets are off if my pager is called or if thunderstorm static is severe.

The Marconi puts out 30 watts on AM in a north south direction so I won't be very loud.

Sorry for the short notice, but if this is successful in any way, you can count on a repeat performance.

Regards,

Jerry Proc VE3FAB
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com
Radio Restoration Volunteer
HMCS Haida Toronto, Ontario

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: ejz@nosc.mil (Edward J. Zeranski)
Subject: Knight Space Spanner
Message-ID: <9507142125.AA01265@manta.nosc.mil>

Hello Folks, perhaps someone can help me. Recently I found a Knight Kit Space Spanner regen receiver and would like to get a copy of any kind of pub that went with it. This may only be a lunch hook and not a real 'anchor' but its fun to play with and fits right between the R390A and BC-348. I'll gladly pay copy and post fees. There is a similar RX on the cover of ER#42, the issue with the audio mod for the R390A. Thank you.

Ed Zeranski ejz@marlin.nosc.mil, work
 ezeran@powergrid.electriciti.com, home
Wooden Boats, Tube Receivers, Rusty Old Trucks, The Good Stuff!

This is a private opinion or statement and is nobody's fault but mine. No person, employer, or govt. should try to take credit for it!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Jodaanve@aol.com
Subject: Major BA Sighting Details
Message-ID: <950714222225_115222853@aol.com>

Sorry I took so long to get back. Again, all of this equipment belongs to Vern Martin W9MNZ who is in poor health. The house is scheduled for demolition by the end of the month and the family is trying to clear it out quickly. There will be people there this weekend, Saturday until 1:00 PM, Sunday 1:00PM until? After that, it would be best to contact Betty Martin 608 222-5634 for appointment. For those that want to take the "dumpster dive" the house is at 4105 Monona Drive, Monona WI.

Here is a partial listing of some of the pieces of equipment. There are racks full of stuff plus tons (literally) of parts, xformers, meters, caps, etc many NIB.

Type CAY 46076A medium freq rcvr
BC-221-C Freq. meter
HP model 100D low freq standard
OS-62 USM 50 scope
AM-864/U amplifier
CAY 52193 HF xmitter

BC 640A xmitter with accesseries, complete rack
General Radio freq meter type 720A
Type CAY 522238 IF xmittter
TS-403B/U Signal Generator
Narda model 441C VSWR ampl.
TU-8-B, TU-6-B, TU-9-B tuning units
Wilcox Electric Co xmitter Type 95D
CFN -434CB mod & IF to video converter
Collins 26X-1 Audio/comp
Brush Development CO BL-962 DC amp
BC 639A xmitter homebrew

I ended up with a large quantity of tubes, including may xmitting types.
Once they are sorted out I will post a list of the excess to be disposed of
very reasonably. If anyone is looking for a particuar receiving or small
xmitter tube please e-mail your needs directly to Jodaanve@aol.com.

Good Hunting!

Dave WB9EGZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Jodaanve@aol.com
Subject: Major BA Sighting!
Message-ID: <950714141930_32761912@aol.com>

Hi BA gang,

If you can find your way to Monona, WI (near Madison) this weekend, there is
a house that is being torn down full of BA equipment and parts.

Unfortunately family members and others have been cleaning out for the last
2 months and we all would probably cry if we knew what was thown out.

There is still a lot there, a dumpster dive is worth the trip alone,
including magazines, QST, 73 and others from 1946 to present, transmitters,
test equipment and lots of parts (I bought what was left of the tubes so I
you looking for any let me know)

Don't have time to give all the details now, but will post a message with the
address and who to contact. I know the people will be there this weekend so
if you can make it bring your truck!

I'm going back this afternoon to make up a list of the major equipment. I am
not associated with this group, but am willing to help out to save some of
this stuff from the bulldozer and conserve room in our county landfill.

Will be back with another posting in a few hours.

Dave WB9EGZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: modern xcvr to help neutralize ba?
Message-ID: <9507151517.AA15544@jupiter>

----- Begin Included Message -----

From: Grant Youngman <gyoungma@jaws.gtetel.com>
Subject: Re: HQ180 Alignment help
uency change!

A (maybe THE?) use for the expensive rice box sitting on the table as
a backup radio to all the good toob stuff is as an RF alignment generator.

And of course its good in receive for calibrating VFOs and as
a simple no-power-applied tool to neutralize amplifier stages.

----- End Included Message -----

How does one neutralize a BA transmitter without powering the
thing on?

--Andy

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: Re: modern xcvr to help neutralize ba?
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950715084442.10023A-1000000@crl12.crl.com>

Andy you have to disconnect by some means the B+ to the final to
neutralize it.

Now if you have both grid and plate current meters you can neutralize
by adjusting the neutralize cap and watching the grid change when the
plate is tuned thru resonannce. You do not want the grid to change
when the plate is tuned thru resonance. This was a easy way to
adjust the old Gates AM transmitters when you had all the controls and
meters on the front panel. This method does not require dis connecting
the B+ to the final.

de stan ak0b

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>

Subject: Re: RE:Kudos for Larry!
Message-ID: <9507142032.AA15272@jupiter>

----- Begin Included Message -----

From: lakeith@wrdis01.robins.af.mil (Larry Keith)
Subject: Re: RE:Kudos for Larry!

Again, true. But, at the time I had the bridge and no diodes in the junk box.. I guess, to be correct, I should have used a 5U4! 8-)

----- End Included Message -----

But then you'd have to wire the 5U4 filaments to be on all the time...because (I assume) wouldn't the 5U4 not rectify until you were at a certain percentage of the full filament voltage? The whole point is to apply that DC at low levels right at the beginning...

I'll have to borrow my dad's QST and catch that article. Or maybe I'll stop by a bookseller -- seems to me there was a BA article of sorts in the July CQ (if it's not purged from the shelves already.)

This stuff reminds me of a couple of articles I saw in some old 73 magazines at a radio club room. One was called HAM RADIO IS NOT A RICH MAN'S HOBBY (showed restoration of a Globe Chief...Scout?) and another was OLD RIGS CAN LIVE AGAIN. Both were from the '75-78 time frame.

--Andy

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: wkleros@csn.net (Bill Kleronomos)
Subject: Re: Receiver for FM DX
Message-ID: <199507150840.AA05901@ns-1.csn.net>

There's been some good comments on this one- Chasing E2 and MS skip is a periodic interest here. Couple of comments from the HG shack:

Many of the pricey BA tuners such as the Macs and Marantzes are in the high-roller class because they have excellent audio attributes- good response, low distortion, good stereo decoding, good limiting and capture ratio, etc. While many of these attributes go hand-in-hand with the right stuff needed for DXing the band such as sensitivity, adjacent channel selectivity, IMD performance and well-calibrated dial, sometimes they're not.

Much of the time we're in DX mode we're parked on a locally unoccupied channel more than likely adjacent to the next 200 Khz one which probably is occupied, and could be with a local class C 100 KW beastie. So, adjacent channel selectivity would probably be #1 on my own list of desirables and many BA FM BC receivers just can't compare to modern units that commonly use crystal/ceramic or comb filters as 21.4 /10.7 Mhz. Many ads for BA tuners brag about their "wide band" characteristics for "lowest distortion".

While there are a few tube-type BA receivers that do use something better than a couple cans of LC filtering, probably the best idea in the realm of BAs is to use something like the Watkins-Johnson or some other kind of stock or modified military or spook receiver as Terry O suggests. Fair Radio has some hybrid receivers that look interesting. Another benefit to a military unit is frequency readout, BA tuners seem to be universally poor in dial-it-to-the-channel accuracy and calibration. And some have just outstanding AFC- needed because they drift so much.

Of course, one option is always to get a BA receiver that has 80% of what you want and modify it--a crystal lattice filter at 10.7 Mhz is probably worth experimenting with. And the one of the best ways to achieve selectivity and sensitivity is to use a big, big antenna perhaps with a preamp. I'm very pleased with the 10 el yagi I'm presently using mostly to reduce the big, bad multipath we get due to our local terrain.

FYI- big FM yagis are available from Antennacraft (formerly Winegard) in Burlington, IA. They do have an 800 number.....

I selected my own tuner to go with the "family" stereo at a recycled audio store where they graciously let me compare them on an external antenna. In addition to the sound, I noted how they received a weak out of town station. The differences were amazing- from clear, almost full quieting on one to inaudible on another.

I'd also be interested in the comments and experiences of others on this subject. ...bill

"Peak the grid, dip the plate, dive right in- don't hesitate!"

- de KD0HG/AAR8CC, ex WA90ZC

CE: KBCO AM 1190 KC & KBCO FM 97.3 Mhz

Rocky Mountain Director- AM International

wkleros@csn.net

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Jay Coward <jayc@abpcad.sj.hp.com>
Subject: REH
Message-ID: <199507141852.AA148627938@hp.com>

I picked up an interesting piece at Foothill last weekend and I'm in need of a manual and/or schematic. This is a REH Military entertainment set with BC & 3 SW bands. It is permiability tuned by push-button or knob, also a phono input. Construction is typically mil spec, i.e. ironclad! As I carried it away to my car, somebody asked "Where's the boat that goes with it?"

Also need any info, parts, pieces, units of RU-** & GF-** & ZB-*. These are 1930's aircraft sets that were predecessors of ARC-5, SCR-274 types. Would also be interested in any historical info pertaining to the Aircraft Radio Corp. of Boonton, N.J.

Thanks,

Jay Coward KE6PPF Hm:408-336-3414 Wk:510-505-5614

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/ _ _	HEWLETT	John Jay Coward	39201 Cherry Street	MS NK10
/ / / _ /	PACKARD	jayc@abpcad.sj.hp.com	Newark, California	94560
/	Communications Components Division	510-505-5614	Fax 510-505-5560	

"I haven't heard anything like that since the orphanage burned down."
- Mark Twain on an opera performance

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: "Terry O'Laughlin" <OLAUGHLIN@vilas.uwex.edu>
Subject: Re: Rig for FM Stereo DX?
Message-ID: <MAILQUEUE-101.950714142445.736@vilas.uwex.edu>

> Anyone got a suggestion on a good hot, available rig? I am limited
> to analog dial. Personally, I like the Pioneer rigs from the 70's, but
> looking for opinions.

I was an avid sporadic-E chaser in the early 70s. The primo receiver from that period was built by Sierra. As I recall, it had a multipath scope on the front panel (a tube!). It cost about \$2000 in 1973.

I had a Dynaco FM-5, which was quite sensitive. The top of the line Pioneer tuner (as opposed to receiver) was actually a little better. I was working for Lafayette Radio Electronics in Milwaukee and I'd spend my idle hours in the store spinning our big pyramidal antenna around and twiddling with various receivers and televisions (Sony Trinitrons were the most sensitive TVs). I remember the Pioneer had a number something like TX-9100, but I'm not sure. It was a great tuner.

I have a Technics ST-9030 now. We used to use them at Wisconsin Public Radio for our long haul monitoring, typically 70 miles. They were replaced by Carver units last year. We also replaced all our yagis with Scala units - gorgeous construction.

Most of these modern high-end FM tuners require a test bench in order to rank the performance. The only newer units I've used that perform noticeably better are the ones using Schotz tuner technology. Schotz runs a small research lab in Cedarburg, WI. As I understand it, his tuner technology is based on designing the RF and IF to minimize group delay. This results in less distortion and a higher signal to noise ratio for a given signal strength. I think Proton and NAD used his stuff in a few models. I have a Proton with a Schotz tuner in my car.

The legendary FM tuner is a Marantz, the 10B (I'm a little hazy about the number). It's a bona fide boatanchor. Serious collectors wave big bucks at these. Last one I saw for sale was at \$1300. I guess the golden ear types have their own version of Collinsmania.

I intend to get a sporadic-E chasing setup running at my present QTH. I picked up a tower at the South Milwaukee hamfest (60' Rohn 25G tiltover, rusty and missing a section, but for \$50). I'll forgo all the consumer claptrap and use my CEI/WJ surveillance gear for FM DXing.

73 Terry O'

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Scott_Johnson-AZAX60@email.sps.mot.com
Subject: RE>Rig for FM Stereo DX?
Message-ID: <"Macintosh */PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>

RE>Rig for FM Stereo DX?

7/14/95

How about the National Criterion? Hollow state, and built by someone we all know! I've got one, and it beats the pants off anything but my Marantz 10.

I want to begin shopping for an FM stereo rig for next state type DX in the 88-92 Mcs range.

Anyone got a suggestion on a good hot, available rig? I am limited to analog dial. Personally, I like the Pioneer rigs from the 70's, but looking for opinions.

q2: Is there a filter available to limit the front end to the range above?

73 de tom

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: w0ogh@ix.netcom.com (Larry Godek)
Subject: roller bars
Message-ID: <199507142157.0AA16385@ix2.ix.netcom.com>

I mentioned to someone here the other day that I had some roller bar mounts available. What I had was an old Federal T&T BC-750 (thats what the tag said) that I needed to dispose of. Several hundered lbs or Iron. Well I stipped it all out except for the power supply, which I can hardly move but never the less its good for a couple of thousand volts at a couple hundred mils. Anyway the chassis had rollers (2 ea. on a side) and nice heavy rails inside the cabinet. I kept them also. The rails are 23 inches long and weigh a lb or more each. I have 6 of them and will pass them on for someone interested at \$15 a pair plus shipping.

I can't find the post from the person who said they were interested and my memory isn't that long either. Sorry about that. Please advise if you are interested.

Larry W00GH@ix.netcom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>
Subject: sideswipers, aka cooties, was Re: Bunnell Key:
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507141641.B17202-0100000@indy1>

Hi!

Somewhere in the basement, I have most of the parts for the Ur-Mother of all sideswipers--the arm is a length of 3/8" steel rod and the centering springs are odd conical helixes wound of flat strap, salvaged from an old TV transmitter, with massive silver contacts hacked from various junked relays.

Never finished it up; the various knife-switch & hacksaw-blade versions I had made and used convinced me that prolonged use of 'em induced the most *amazing* bad swing in my fist...! It was still readable, but oh *dear* it was as thick as the Hoosier twang I had to lose when I first went on the (broadcast) radio.

So be warned, they're not for everyone! Still, at the recent local hamfest, I bought a couple of 811As from an OT who admitted he'd gotten an electronic keyer one Christmas and after several attempts, simply threw out the electronics and wired the two fixed contacts together on the nice Vibro-keyer that came with it! So if you want a *really* first-rate cootie, y'might want to talk to Mitch. :)

73,
--Bobbi

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: Re: sideswipers, aka cooties, was Re: Bunnell Key:
Message-ID: <9507142233.AA00692@bock.ih.att.com>

OK Bobbi. Did that Vibro-keyer have one paddle that went both ways, or two separate paddles and levers? The former is more like a proper cootie.

As for your thick-sounding fist, my limited experiments showed that the lever and the contact posts MUST be absolutely stiff and rock-steady. Any flexing of the parts will lengthen your dits and shorten the dead air between them, which is what I think you meant. So the Ur-Muthah with the 3/8" steel arm was a step in the right direction. 73, mike k

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Jeffrey Herman <jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu>
Subject: Re: sideswipers, aka cooties, was Re: Bunnell Key:
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950714134031.3876A-100000@kahuna>

> Never finished it up; the various knife-switch & hacksaw-blade versions
> I had made and used convinced me that prolonged use of 'em induced the
> most *amazing* bad swing in my fist...! It was still readable, but oh

> *dear* it was as thick as the Hoosier twang I had to lose when I first
> went on the (broadcast) radio.
> 73,
> --Bobbi

Well, on 500 kc one's swing was just as familiar as one's callsign!
After the second or third word sent I could immediately tell which
shipboard operator was at the key.

No code swing would be the same as all of us speaking in the same voice
and same accent. Boring!

I like the idea of a Vibro-kootie. Mitch?

Jeff NH6IL

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: Jason Gilroy <jgilroy@lynx.dac.neu.edu>
Subject: Swan 'Cygnet' Info?
Message-ID: <199507151543.LAA27818@lynx.dac.neu.edu>

I'm new to the world of BA's, and today picked up a Swan Cygnet Model
270. If anyone has any info about this radio, I'd appreciate it if you
could forward it to me or the list. The radio is in superb condition.

Thanks,
Jay

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"...my dreams, they aren't   | Jason Gilroy |   Who is #1?  You are #6.
as empty as my conscience   | -----
seems to be."               | "Questions are a burden to others, answers
--The Who                   | a prison for oneself." - Village Edict
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<A HREF="<http://chewy.wookie.net/~hotrod/hotrod.html>">Click me.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: "Terry O'Laughlin" <OLAUGHLIN@vilas.uwex.edu>
Subject: Re: The demise of solid state
Message-ID: <MAILQUEUE-101.950714143046.384@vilas.uwex.edu>

> I have it on good authority that a genetically engineered virus has
> escaped from a top secret government lab in California. This virus
> feeds on silicon. It is air born and percipitates in moisture. This
> means the only equipment that will be safe in the next few years will
> either contain hermetic ceramic packaged semiconductors (i.e., mil spec)

> or tubes.

That idea first cropped up in an SF book. I believe it was John Brunner. He called them bacteriophages. The military developed them to target specific materials in warfare.

Does saving every tube I see make me a survivalist?

73 Terry O'

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995

From: "Aaron J. Grier" <agrier@reed.edu>

Subject: update on my HW-101.

Message-ID: <Pine.NXT.3.91.950715021630.11853B-100000@nexttues.reed.edu>

I hauled it all the way up from San Diego along with my antenna, and I got my light bulbs, but I forgot my coax! (doh!) I ran a longwire inside my basement and got the AM broadcast folks on the high end of 40 & 80, but couldn't get anything on 15 or 10, though I figure this is due to the wire being run underground.

The S-meter is still flaky, though I think I've tracked it down to a couple resistors which have gone bad. I'll head to rat-shack in the morning and grab the required pieces. (Yeah, yeah, radio shack is pretty crappy, but it's close, which is important since I don't have a car.) It's like the zero position is WAAAAAY lower than it should be. If I've got the RF gain set to about the 12 o'clock position, the needle comes back to where it should be. (however, I don't pick up anything when the gain is that low, so I can't verify that the s-meter is working.)

I was peeking under the hood, just poking around, and I decided that I'd have a look at the finals. As far as I know, they're supposed to be 6146s, but on the RCA tube it has three numbers: 6883B, 8032A, and 8552. Was my rig hot-rodded by its previous owner? (I don't have any tube reference manuals, so my apologies if this is a silly question.)

I've got gigantic fantastic trees in my backyard, and a two-story house. Looks like I'm going to have fun putting up an antenna. :) Whee!

"Aaron, what are you doing up there? Get down from there! You're going to hurt yourself! And what are you doing with that wire and rope?"
-- my landlady when I set up my antenna.

The Finn / VLA		"Feel the love: have a carrot!" -- Groovy Dave
Aaron J. Grier		DE CB EE 65 0D EE 3A 0C 1E D7 F5 4D 9E 02 3C C4

agrier@reed.edu | The above line contains a bunch of letters & numbers.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>
Subject: VTVMs
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507141334.A22155-01000000@netcom3>

Hi Sports Fans,

I was at the San Jose Amtrak station this morning, and upon leaving, I passed a small shop that had a sign out front that said "Military Surplus" for sale. Of course, I stopped and went in. While there was nothing of interest in the military line (just an old drop tank and some container doors) There were 2 vtvm's on a shelf. One was an old Heathkit and the other was an old EICO. They were pretty scroungy. If anyone wants one of these, I can go back there again. I, myself, have no interest.

73

Paul WA6OKQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jul 15 11:53:00 1995
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>
Subject: WTB: SCR-197 Manual
Message-ID: <950715110657_71333.144_DHQ42-1@CompuServe.COM>

WANTED: Military manual TM-11-805 for SCR-197. Any leads appreciated.
Don, N3RHT: 412-234-8819 or here.